

Message Text

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SUBJ: BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE

POST AND AMERICAN COMMUNITY'S FOUR DAY BICENTENNIAL FESTIVAL
A REAL SUCCESS, CLIMAXED BY ATTENDANCE ON A TORRID JULY
4 AFTERNOON IN THE HAGUE OF NEARLY 2,000 PEOPLE HEADED BY
THE QUEEN AND PRINCE OF THE NETHERLANDS. END SUMMARY.

EMBASSY AND AMERICAN COMMUNITY CLIMAXED FOUR-DAY BICEN-
TENNIAL COMMEMORATION WITH A 90-MINUTE PROGRAM OF SERIOUS
ADDRESSES AND MUSIC IN THE HAGUE'S GIANT CONGRESGEBOUW BEFORE
AN AUDIENCE OF NEARLY 2,000 PERSONS, HEADED BY THE QUEEN
AND PRINCE OF THE NETHERLANDS, GOVERNMENT, DIPLOMATIC CORPS,
AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT MEMBERS OF OUR AUDIENCE.
ADDRESSES BY YALE LAW'S CHARLES L. BLACK JR. AND LEIDEN
UNIVERSITY'S J.W. SCHULTE NORDHOLT, ONE OF EUROPE'S LEADING
AUTHORITIES ON NORTH AMERICA, WERE THE HIGHLIGHTS. THE PRO-
GRAM INCLUDED THE ANTHEMS OF THE U.S. AND NETHERLANDS,
AND FEATURED SONGS BY AMERICAN BASSHENRY BLACKMON CULMIN-
ATING IN HIS LEADING THE ENTIRE ASSEMBLY IN "AMERICA THE BEAU-
TIFUL".

AFTER A RECEPTION HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR AND MRS. GOULD FOR
THE AUDIENCE THE FOUR-DAY PROGRAM ENDED WITH A ECUMENICAL
EPILOGUE IN FRONT OF THE CONGRESGEBOUW LED BY THE FOUR CLERGY-
MEN WHO REGULARLY ADMINISTER TO THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

OTHER EVENTS IN THE WELL-PUBLICIZED FOUR-DAY FESTIVAL

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WERE A PRODUCTION BY THE ANGLO AMERICAN THEATER GROUP OF

MASTERS' "SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY," IN FOUR CITIES, AND BY THE FOLLOWING: TWO MAJOR LECTURES BY U.S. ASTRONAUT EDWARD G. GIBSON, A ONE MAN SHOW BY DUTCH COMEDIAN PAUL VAN VLIET, A JULY 3 "COME AS AN AMERICAN" DANCE FEATURING FIVE BANDS, CONCERTS BY THE U.S. 33RD ARMY BAND, HARPSICHORDIST DAVID PERCY, EIGHT LECTURES BY U.S. PARK RANGER STEVEN LEWIS, CONTINUOUS SCREENINGS TO S.R.O. AUDIENCE OF THE ALISTAIR COOKE "AMERICA" SERIES, A SPECIAL TENNIS MATCH BY DUTCH AND AMERICAN STARS, EIGHT DIFFERENT EXHIBITS BY AMERICAN ARTISTS, A VINTAGE CAR EXHIBIT AND VARIOUS OTHER EVENTS. DIFFICULT TO JUDGE ATTENDANCE IN THE VAST CONGRESGEBOUW COMPLEX ACCURATELY, BUT IT WAS MANY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE. THE COMMEMORATION WAS BY INVITATION ONLY AND THE ATTENDANCE BY THE ROYAL FAMILY, THE GOVERNMENT, PARLIAMENT, ACADEME AND MEDIA WAS VERY SATISFACTORY. THE ATTENDANCE IS PARTICULARLY GRATIFYING, CONSIDERING THE 90 DEGREE HEAT, THAT IT IS THE DUTCH PEAK VACATION PERIOD, AND THE BEACHES SO INVITING. MEDIA COVERAGE HAS BEEN VERY GOOD. POST WILL FOLLOW WITH AIRGRAM WHEN STATISTICS ARE IN AND DUST SETTLED ON THIS MONTHS-LONG EFFORT WHICH HAS PROVED A SUCCESSFUL DEMONSTRATION OF BASIC AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND OF THE VIGOR AND VARIETY OF THE U.S. TO A LEADING SEGMENT OF THE DUTCH PUBLIC. GOULD

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